

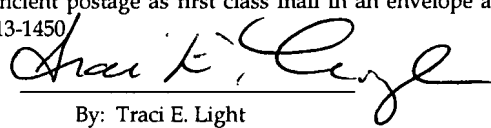
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: William Velander *et al.*
Serial No.: 10/049,849
Filed: 06/27/2002
Entitled: **Transgenic Prothrombin And Related Prothrombin Precursors**

Group No.: 1632
Examiner: Hama, J.

**REQUEST TO WITHDRAW FINALITY OF FINAL
OFFICE ACTION MAILED OCTOBER 9, 2007**

Mail Stop - Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)(1)(i)(A)
I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is, on the date below, being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
Dated: October 31, 2007
 By: Traci E. Light

Examiner Hama:

The Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider withdrawing the pending Final Office Action as being prematurely issued. The Applicants have diligently pursued the prosecution in good faith and in accordance with USPTO guidelines:

The applicant who is seeking to define his or her invention in claims that will give him or her the patent protection to which he or she is justly entitled should receive the cooperation of the examiner to that end, and not be prematurely cut off ...

MPEP §706.07 Final Rejection [emphasis added]. Further, the Applicants have not engaged in any behavior intended to unfairly prolong the examination:

...the applicant who dallies in the prosecution of his or her application, resorting to technical or other obvious subterfuges in order to keep the application pending before the primary examiner, can no longer find a refuge in the rules to ward off a final rejection.

MPEP §706.07 Final Rejection. On the contrary, the Applicants have objectively considered the Examiner's arguments and provided claim amendments where appropriate. In response, the Examiner has withdrawn some rejections and/or objections. In other words, progress is being made on this application. A Final Rejection at this point unfairly truncates the Applicants' entitlement to a full and fair hearing:

The examiner should never lose sight of the fact that in every case the applicant is entitled to a full and fair hearing ...

MPEP §706.07 Final Rejection. This is especially true because of the late assertion of the Butler Master's thesis. Once the Applicants' successfully rebutted each and every prior rejection, the Examiner now engages in 'piecemeal' examination and creates a series of rejections without fulfilling the burden of verifying Butler's public availability date. This present Final Office Action should never have been mailed and the Applicants believe that the claim amendments and argument in previous office actions should have resulted in allowance of the claims.

Consequently, the Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider withdrawing the present final office action.

Dated: October 31, 2007



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